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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.





ADDRESS

OF

THE BOARD OF MANAGERS

OF THE

✓ AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY,

TO THE

• Auxiliary Societies

AND

THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES.

27.5
f WASHINGTON:

PRINTED BY DAVIS AND FORCE, PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE.

.....

July, 1820.

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The Hon. BUSHROD WASHINGTON, *President,*

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

Hon. Wm. H. Crawford, of Georgia.
Hon. Henry Clay, of Kentucky.
Hon. Wm. Phillips, of Massachusetts.
Col. Henry Rutgers, of New-York.
Hon. John E. Howard, of Maryland.
Hon. John C. Herbert, of Maryland.
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Elias B. Caldwell, Esq. *Secretary.*
John Underwood, *Recording Secretary,*
Richard Smith, *Treasurer.*

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ADDRESS.

To the Auxiliary Colonization Societies and the People of the United States :

The Board of Managers of the American Colonization Society have received, by the return of the Elizabeth from Africa, letters from their agent and the people who went out in that vessel, containing most gratifying and interesting intelligence of their arrival and reception in that country.

They are greatly encouraged by these communications to persevere in their object. Success now seems no longer doubtful. The soil, climate, and productions of the country will afford a healthy and comfortable subsistence ; the favourable disposition of the natives, and the previous settlement, at Sherbro, of a number of free coloured people under Mr. Kizell, give us every reason to hope for the security of the establishment ; and the well-directed and zealous efforts of our government to carry into execution, the law for the suppression of the slave-trade, ensure every necessary protection.

The period is now arriving when the Society purpose to send out one or more vessels, to carry to the settlement a number of the free people of colour of this country ; a considerable number of whom are anxiously waiting to avail themselves of such an opportunity. Already the number of applicants exceeds, considerably, the accommodations of a single ship ; and frequent and pressing applications are still continually occurring.

As most of these persons must not only be supported during their voyage, but will require, for a time, many articles to contribute to the comfort of the settlement, a considerable and immediate supply of funds will be necessary.

The friends of the Society, in many places, have already given liberally ; but our expenditures have been necessarily great. The magnitude of the object and the evident prospect of success, will, we hope, induce its friends every where, to come forward at this important juncture, and render that prompt and effectual aid which the emergency demands.

When we present to the view of the American public the establishment of free coloured people on the land of their forefathers, transported thither from this, and settled and supported by the benevolence of our citizens, we trust we cannot appeal in vain for the continuance of their liberality. The progress of such a work cannot fail to excite an increasing interest. The patriot will hail it as promising the highest blessings he can hope for his country, and the heart of the philanthropist will exult at the wide prospect of happiness it presents; while the christian, with the superadded impulse of diffusing among all around him the light and the hope in which he glories, will thank God that he is permitted to be a co-worker in such a cause.

The letters subjoined, will show the various articles that are wanted for the settlers; and donations in such goods will be thankfully accepted from those who may not have it in their power to give money on this occasion.

The different Auxiliary Societies throughout the United States, are respectfully solicited to collect and send on their supplies of money to Richard Smith, Esq. Treasurer of this Society, at the Branch Bank, Washington, and to hold the donations they may receive in goods and other articles, until it is ascertained from what port the vessel will sail.

We beg leave to conclude by particularly addressing ourselves to the Rev. Clergy of the United States of all religious denominations, from whose interest and influence we cannot help expecting, with confidence, considerable assistance.

We would respectfully request them to consider, in all its bearings, the object we present to them, and its probable consequences; to give to their respective congregations, information on this subject, and to solicit and collect for the Society, whatever their means may enable them to give. A ready and important addition to our funds, we have no doubt, might thus be made, perhaps with more ease than in any other way. A small sum from each congregation in the United States would enable us to redouble our exertions. Whatever they may thus collect, they will please to remit as above directed.

By order of the Managers,
E. B. Caldwell, Cor. Secy

Letter from Mr. Samuel A. Crozer to E. B. Caldwell, Esq. Secretary of the American Colonization Society.

River Sherbro, March 31, 1820.

SIR,

Having received my appointment as first agent of the Colonization Society, to reside on the coast of Africa, on the seventeenth of January, 1820, I immediately made the requisite preparations, and proceeded to New-York, where I received instructions to appropriate the funds in that place, (except one thousand dollars remitted from the city of Washington,) to "the providing of the necessary presents to the natives, and for making preparations for the comfortable establishment and subsistence of the first colonists who shall need the aid of the Society." They amounted to fourteen hundred and forty-eight dollars and fifty cents, which I endeavoured to dispose of to the best advantage that the shortness of the time would admit of, in procuring articles which, according to the best information I could obtain, were the most suitable for the purpose, and which, together with the goods received by donations, were put on board the ship Elizabeth, captain Sebor, bound to the coast of Africa, in which I embarked on the sixth of February in the character of physician. After a passage of thirty days we arrived at Sierra Leone. Governor M'Carty was absent in the country, but returned on the Saturday evening following; and, considering the danger of making any delay, we determined to make our communications on the following day, when, with the letter of the Hon. B. Washington, I despatched the ensuing letters to his excellency:

"SIR—Having arrived as officiating physician on board the ship Elizabeth, as stated in the communication of the Rev. Samuel Bacon, Principal Agent of the United States for providing for liberated Africans, I beg leave to inform your excellency, that I am authorized by the Colonization Society to select and purchase a suitable site on the western coast of Africa, on which to colonize those free people of colour of the United States, who may be desirous of settling there; and to take charge of the government of the colony when established. A contract having been entered into by the Princes, Headmen, &c. of Sherbro, to furnish land for the proposed colony, if it meet with the views of the Society to establish it there, I am instructed in the first instance to direct my attention to that country, and if it should not answer their expectations, to the most eligible situation that can be procured on the coast. The United States having appointed agents to provide an establishment for liberated Africans, the Society conceive it will be mutually advantageous, to fix upon the same local position; and that concert between the agents of both parties, will contribute to the advancement of their several objects. I have presumed to make this statement to your excellency that my future proceedings may be properly apprehended by the officers of the government of Sierra Leone.

whose friendship and co-operation, in meliorating the unhappy condition of the much-injured Africans, we ardently desire to obtain; and which, from the friendly and polite attention, shown to the former agents of the Society, we have every reason to expect. It is believed that a colony at Sherbro, will be of material advantage to that at Sierra Leone; the proposed colony being intended as far as possible to be an agricultural establishment, will, it is believed, considerably enhance the commercial interests of the colony at Sierra Leone; and that many advantages will arise from the mutual succour and support, which it will be in their power to render each other."

To develop as candidly as possible the views of the Society, the second letter was as follows:

"SIR—Should the colony, proposed to be established by the Colonization Society, be located in the neighbourhood of Sierra Leone, I beg leave to propose, with a view to a mutual good understanding, that neither colony shall employ, or grant lauds or other privileges, to the citizens of the other, without the approbation of their respective governments: An arrangement of this kind will effectually prevent any unpleasant interference with the interests of each other."

The foregoing letter was written with some hesitation, fearing lest I should encroach on the Society; yet it was with the approbation of Mr. Bacon, and a conviction that it was relinquishing nothing which the constitution of the Society called for. These communications were received respectfully by his excellency, who invited us to dine with him the next day, when he received us with the utmost politeness, and tendered his services. Being chagrined and worn out with unavoidable delays, Mr. Bacon purchased a small armed schooner for the purpose of unlading the ship, and we sailed for Sherbro on the seventeenth of March. Mr. Bankson had previously been sent to confer with Mr. Kizell, who has resided in the Sherbro country almost constantly, since Messrs. Burgess and Mills left the coast; we met him on the passage, and he informed us that Mr. Kizell had agreed to furnish us with house-room and storage, until we could find other accommodations. We anchored the next day in the river Sherbro, twenty-five miles from Campepar (the name of Mr. Kizell's place,) where we landed our goods as soon as possible. We have not yet held a palaver with the chiefs, but I have no doubt of their cheerfully granting us land, although there is a trifling alarm among them owing to false impressions, that we are the enemies of Mr. Kizell, &c. Mr. Kizell is staunch as a rock in our favour; he had not received any information concerning the Society, since the departure of Messrs. Burgess and Mills: he left Sierra Leone soon after their departure, and went down to Sherbro, where he built a little town, and cleared a small spot of ground for our reception. On our arrival he had begun to despair of ever seeing us. Land may be procured on

the coast; and I feel resolved (if it be the will of the Society,) whatever may occur, not to leave the coast until a satisfactory station is procured. It is not now in my power to render any definite information concerning the face of the country, not having hitherto been able to make other than superficial observations and not desiring to give a hasty opinion; but the land appears very fertile, it produces fruit of all kinds in the greatest abundance, and no doubt will produce almost every thing that can satisfy or gratify the real or artificial wants of man, with half the labour that they can be produced in the United States. This is my opinion from the little observation which I have had an opportunity of making, and this is the least productive season of the year. I have been agreeably disappointed in the temperature of the climate; instead of the burning sands of Africa, I have found the land clothed with the most exuberant vegetation; and instead of the pestiferous Sirocco, pleasant and refreshing breezes: I have not observed the thermometer higher than eighty-five of Farenheit. The water at Campelar (which is the only place in Sherbro at which I have had an opportunity of trying it) is not good; it is by no means unwholesome, but is highly impregnated with iron, and a very small portion of sulphur; but I understand there is fine water at the situation we have in view for the colony. The river Sherbro in which we now lie, I am satisfied is navigable for a ship of at least four hundred tons as far as the Bagroo: further I have not had an opportunity of ascertaining, but have been informed that there is bold water up that river as far as the Meno; but the pilots here appear to have but very little knowledge of the channel, and if they chance to run aground immediately attribute it to the shifting of the banks. The most proper articles of trade in this place, are tobacco (which ought to be of the longest leaves that can be procured, even though it should cost trouble the sum that short leaved can be procured for,) pipes, rum, or whiskey of the most common kind, blue baftas, gun-powder, trade-guns, assorted knives, Dutch looking-glasses, gilt jewelry, gaudy handkerchiefs, iron pots, showy beads, common chairs, painted with high colours and ornamented in the most gaudy manner, together with toys of various kinds. These articles are all highly necessary, and will command any thing in Africa. I am aware that it was not the intention of the Society to use rum; but it is absolutely necessary until we obtain proper footing in the country; the natives will do nothing without it, and the withholding it might entirely cut off the future usefulness of the Society. Mr. Kizell made the following observations on this subject, requesting me to transmit them to the Society—"That a child could not be weaned from the breast of its mother immediately—and the poor natives of Africa cannot be torn at once from the use of ardent spirits, but must be gradually weaned." This he thinks is the only effectual method of conquering that propensity; he also thinks that the best method of preserving their attachment will be to keep a small vessel

on the coast to trade with them; their articles of trade are palm oil, rice, ivory, cam-wood, bees-wax, honey, gold-dust, leopard skins, &c.

I offer the following observations, not with the presumption to advise, but simply as ideas which have occurred to me, and which no doubt have been already considered by the Society. It is my opinion, that the object of the Society may be accomplished, even with very slender funds; but great prudence and judgment are necessary.

That nothing must be done without mature deliberation, but every thing must be done in season. That it will not be prudent to suffer many to emigrate, until the colony obtains a substantial footing, lest it should be overwhelmed before it is organized. That the greatest discrimination should be exercised in selecting the emigrants. That no emigrant should be admitted into the colony without a certificate signed by some person duly appointed by the Society. That an epitome of the regulations of the colony should be drawn up and printed, and presented to every emigrant before his leaving America, that he may have no cause of complaint or disappointment. That it will be expedient to provide for every individual a proper allowance of wholesome provisions, and that to be served out with the utmost regularity, but to allow no luxury of any kind whatever, either to the colonists or agents, as they will be a great expense, are useless, and I am convinced by experience, are a continual source of murmuring and discontent. That no more white men than are absolutely necessary to transact the business of the Society should be admitted into the colony. That two agents will be amply sufficient to transact that business at present. That no man will be useful as an agent here, except he possess sterling talents, extensive and versatile knowledge, and a willingness to sacrifice every thing to the welfare of the colony. That the agents ought to be governed by strict regulations, and instructions as definite as possible, so as not to leave too much to their own discretion, and yet not to cramp them in their operations. That the Society should keep the government of the colony strictly in their own hands until it be thoroughly organized—And until that be the case, not to suffer any regulations to be passed by the agents or colonists which are not necessary on account of localities. Lastly, that a code of laws and regulations shall be forwarded as soon as possible. And, if these measures are pursued, I feel sanguine of success.

We found it necessary on our arrival here to send to Sierra Leone, to purchase rum, tobacco, and trade-guns. Owing to our accounts being considerably entangled, and Mr. Bacon not having come to any arrangement with me, it is impossible at present to render an account of the manner in which I appropriated the funds entrusted to my charge, but it shall be done by the next opportunity. I am sensible that I ought to have made a report be-

fore leaving New-York, but, having deferred it until the day of our departure, I was prevented by indisposition. I have endeavoured in the foregoing lines, to throw together without any kind of system, such information as I conceived would be most acceptable to the Society and in our present situation is the best that I can render. We have many difficulties before us, but they, comparatively speaking, vanish into nothing; let nothing deter the Society from persevering in a vigorous pursuit of their object, the Lord will prosper it, and may he direct you.

Yours, respectfully,
SAMUEL A. CROZER.

Campelar, Sherbro Island, 22d March, 1820.

HON. BUSHROD WASHINGTON,

SIR—I desire to return you and the Board of Managers of the Colonization Society, my grateful thanks for the confidence you and they repose in me; I have received your letter and people. I thank you for the first and will take care of the last. Africa is wide and long—Africa is fertile and healthy—Africa is afflicted—“Rachel mourneth for her children,” and “will not be comforted till they come home.” Send more, and more, and more. I wish you could see our sons and daughters growing up by our sides, tall, and healthy, and strong; you would say, “surely it is a goodly land.” You must not slack your hand. You must strive to send my brethren home. You must not mind the talk of those coloured people in your own country who oppose you. They are ignorant of our climate, and soil, and fruit, and cattle. It may be, they are wicked too, some of them, and do not wish their “Zion well.” You must not listen to the words of those white persons who try to stop free people of colour from coming over. They are blind, sometimes, perhaps. You cannot send too many. Let them come and sit down in our valleys, and on our hills, and near our rivers, and all the country will soon break forth into a song. The Sherbro country is full of meat, and fish, and bread, and oil, and honey. Send us people to eat them.

I thank you for the present. It is very useful and very beautiful. The people will stop at Campelar till the palaver is over, and land bought and cleared, and houses built. It may be the women and children will stay till the rains are over. This place is healthy. A good sea-breeze always cools us, night and day. God bless you. I can say all in one word—God bids you “colonize.” I know it is God’s will. God has sent me here and set me down to make a place for my brethren. I say, God has taken up the matter, and you must go on, my father, and work with Him in this great work. Farewell, fear not: I say, God will stand at your back and look over

your shoulder and see that no ill comes in your path. He bids you go on. Faith leads and God helps. Farewell: I say, "colonize."

Your friend,

JOHN KIZELL.

The following are Extracts from a few Private Letters.

We all unite in morning and evening prayer in church, and have happy seasons. We must build a church, as the one we have is too small. It is delightful to witness the desire of these natives to learn. We shall have glorious labours here. As we sit in church, sometimes, every alternate one on the male side is a naked man or boy. They cannot speak or understand English, but always say "Amen," and never fail to sing the tune with us.

Well, we are in Africa, the gloomy veil that intercepts your view from us has been passed by us, and we look back and wonder we ever thought it so difficult and dangerous an enterprize. Mr. Kizell begs you not to spare or slacken your hand. It is fixed that Africa must be colonized, and that colonizing will be the only means to stop the slave-trade. Go on, I say, on the authority of Mr. Kizell: there is a mild climate, a good soil, and perfect security for settlers, notwithstanding the slave-trade. I say perfect security: on these heads I shall ere long hope to speak from experience and observation.

I advise, in case of vessels coming hereafter to this place, that all larger vessels, viz. such as draw more than seven feet water to come to an anchor about six or seven miles from the Plantains towards the Sherbro. Anchorage is good, and any vessels may come down thus far. A pilot will be needed, which can be had by coming to anchor off Cape Sierra Leone, and sending up to Freetown; or, by sending some small craft down to Campelar. The former is most adviseable. Having anchored at the distance of six miles from the Plantains, send your jolly boat down shore past Jenkins to Campelar, and the small craft will go up. I would not advise now, that vessels should pass the bar off the Mendo Trees, as the Elizabeth did. It is only three and a half fathoms and full of shoals. Stay further up towards the Plantains. If you come with a small vessel your pilot can bring you down to Campelar. The above advice is predicated on the existing state of things; but I am clearly of opinion a frigate may come to Campelar. It will be proper to sound, and find, and buoy the channel. There is always a fair northwester to come down. The only way to get back is by taking advantage of the tides, a chance east wind, or beating back; which latter cannot be safe till your channel is well-known and marked. Grant, Davies, father and son, and Anderson are good pilots. We

propose soon to have Sherbro Sound explored, and all its shoals buoyed.

The water at Campelar is chalybeate, highly so. It is nothing but sea-water, as it rises and falls with the tide, passing through a bed of iron ore and sand banks. It is black and disagreeable; but the healthiness of this spot is attributed to the sea-air, and the quality of the water.

There is great room for missionaries here—every town ought to have one. Missionaries should all know something of medicine, and have a chest: they should have farming utensils, and know how to use them, also mechanical instruments. To preach, teach, and cultivate are to be united. Send us help—let the current of missionary zeal be turned towards this country. God forbid Africa should be placed behind India by Americans.

Mr. Kizell gives us a hearty reception. He has a church lighted with two lamps, has a pulpit, bible, and hymn book for it. Preached himself once a week, and had prayers morning and evening in it before we came. He is a truly pious man—very liberal. Only two deaths have taken place in his town since he has had it settled, and one of them by lightning. It has a constant sea-breeze. His people are all healthy and happy. I never was healthier—never was happier. The Lord landed with us. It was a season of joy. Mr. Kizell wept with joy. It would rejoice your soul to be in Campelar church. Natives and Americans all joining together in praising God. It was worth a voyage across the ocean to see.

We have had several of the subordinate chiefs—such as Bongo's brother, Sherbro's nephew, old William Ado's son, and others to see us. They all said they hear the people are come, and they came down to see if it was true.

When I speak of naked people, it is always to be understood that they wear something about their loins: the women and men sit on opposite sides in church.

This island is fertile, its shores, washed by the sea and cooled by its waves, are healthy. We shall go up to the Bagroo this fall to lay out a town, if the kings grant us a place.

*Expenditures on account of the American Colonization Society.**Donations and Subscriptions to American Colonization Society.*

Expenses incurred in sending a messenger to Winchester, Do. of Messrs. Hills and Burgess, the agents of the Society, on their mission, while in England, France, and Africa,.....	15 00	Subscriptions and donations received principally in the District of Columbia,.....	2,674 64
Paid Mr. Burgess on account of his salary,.....	3,327 7	From Vermont auxiliary society,.....	140 00
Do. his expenses after his return to America,.....	1 43 33	Do. Newburyport do. Mass.,.....	100 00
Mr. Mills' father, part payment of his salary,.....	200 00	Do. New-York, do.,.....	69 00
Rev. Mr. Meade, agent for the Society, his expenses to Georgia, &c.,.....	500 00	Do. Baltimore, do.,.....	3,475 81
Do. do. to the eastward,.....	254 00	Do. Frederick county, do. Va.,.....	676 00
Amount of sundry bills for printing,.....	1,439 75	Do. Maryland, do.,.....	1,916 13
E. B. Caldwell's account for moneys paid for postage and travelling expenses,.....	330 21	Do. Harper's Ferry, do.,.....	100 00
Isaac McKim, interest on money advanced by him,.....	129 62	Do. the yearly meeting of Friends held in Guilford, North-Carolina, 11th Mo. 1819,.....	800 00
Jacob Leonard for silver mounting for presents,.....	23 70	Do. Chapel Hill auxiliary society, N. C.,.....	50 00
Wm. I. Stone for engraving for do.,.....	11 00	Do. South-Carolina, do.,.....	500 00
Amount paid in N. York, for the supplies sent to Africa,.....	1,553 50	The following subscriptions received by R. Ralston, Esq., Pa. do. collected in Philadelphia,.....	234 80
Do. Norfolk, do. do.,.....	951 72	Do. Raleigh auxiliary society, N. C.,.....	300 00
Expenses of the agents in New-York, &c.,.....	642 92	Do. Rockingham, do. Virginia,.....	104 00
Amount paid Sereno Taylor, his charge as agent for the Society,.....	150 00	Do. Putnam, do. Georgia,.....	130 00
The following sums paid R. Ralston, esq. Philadelphia, Cash paid Samuel A. Crozer, agent of the Society for his expenses,.....		Do. collected in Portsmouth, N. H. by T. Upham,....	893 80
Advances to the colonists and other expenses in travelling to N. York,.....		Do. donations from the city of N. Y. in cash and goods, 250 garments for Africans, received from the ladies of Frederick county, Virginia,.....	1,995 87
Discount on \$300 at 4 per cent.,.....		418 do. and other articles for do. received from the ladies of Georgetown, D. C.,.....	90 00
	494 95	Donations in cash and goods from the town of Norfolk,....	400 00
Balance,	2,479 76		150 25
	14,031 50		14,031 50
		Balance brought down,	2,479 76

An act in addition to the acts prohibiting the slave-trade. Passed March 3d, 1819.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized, whenever he shall deem it expedient, to cause any of the armed vessels of the United States to be employed to cruize on any of the coasts of the United States or territories thereof, or of the coasts of Africa, or elsewhere, where he may judge attempts may be made to carry on the slave-trade by citizens or residents of the United States, in contravention of the acts of Congress prohibiting the same; and to instruct and direct the commanders of all armed vessels of the United States to seize, take, and bring into any port of the United States, all ships or vessels of the United States wheresoever found, which may have taken on board, or which may be intended for the purpose of taking on board, or transporting, or may have transported any negro, mulatto, or person of colour, in violation of any of the provisions of the act, entitled "An act in addition to an act to prohibit the importation of slaves into any port or place within the jurisdiction of the United States from and after the first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eight, and to repeal certain parts of the same," or of any other act or acts prohibiting the traffick in slaves, to be proceeded against according to law. And the proceeds of all ships and vessels, their tackle, apparel, and furniture, and the goods and effects on board of them which shall be so seized, prosecuted, and condemned, shall be divided equally between the United States and the officers and men who shall seize, take, or bring the same into port for condemnation, whether such seizure be made by an armed vessel of the United States or revenue cutter thereof. And the same shall be distributed in like manner as is provided by law for the distribution of prizes taken from an enemy. *Provided,* That the officers and men to be entitled to one half of the proceeds aforesaid shall safe keep every negro, mulatto, or person of colour, found on board any ship or vessel so seized, taken, or brought into port for condemnation, and shall deliver every such negro, mulatto, or person of colour, to the marshal of the district in which they are brought, if into a port of the United States, or, if elsewhere, to such person or persons as shall be lawfully appointed by the President of the United States in the manner hereinafter directed, transmitting to the President of the United States, as soon as may be after such delivery, a descriptive list of such negroes, mulattoes, or persons of colour, that he may give directions for the disposal of them. *And provided further,* That the commanders of such commissioned vessels do cause to be apprehended and taken into custody, every person found on board of such vessel so seized and taken, being of the officers or crew thereof, and him or them convey, as soon as con-

veniently may be, to the civil authority of the United States, to be proceeded against in due course of law in some of the districts thereof.

SECT. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized to make such regulations and arrangements as he may deem expedient for the safe-keeping, support, and removal beyond the limits of the United States, of all such negroes, mulattoes, or persons of colour, as may be so delivered and brought within their jurisdiction; and to appoint a proper person or persons, residing upon the coast of Africa, as agent or agents for receiving the negroes, mulattoes, or persons of colour delivered from on board vessels seized in the prosecution of the slave trade by commanders of the United States' armed vessels.

SECT. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That a bounty of twenty-five dollars be paid to the officers and crews of the commissioned vessels of the United States, or revenue cutters, for each and every negro, mulatto, or person of colour, who shall have been as hereinbefore provided, delivered to the marshal or agent duly appointed to receive them. And the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized and required to pay, or cause to be paid, to such officers and crews or their agent, the aforesaid bounty, for each person delivered as aforesaid.

SECT. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That when any citizen or other person shall lodge information with the attorney for the district of any state or territory, as the case may be, that any negro, mulatto, or person of colour, has been imported therein, contrary to the provisions of the acts in such case made and provided, it shall be the duty of the said attorney forthwith to commence a prosecution by information, and process shall issue against the person charged with holding such negro, negroes, mulatto, mulattoes, person or persons of colour, so alleged to be imported contrary to the provisions of the acts aforesaid. And if, upon the return of the process executed, it shall be ascertained, by the verdict of a jury, that such negro, negroes, mulatto, mulattoes, person or persons of colour, have been brought in contrary to the true intent and meaning of the acts in such cases made and provided, then the court shall direct the marshal of the said district to take the said negroes and mulattoes or persons of colour, into his custody for safe-keeping, subject to the orders of the President of the United States; and the informer or informers who shall have lodged the information, shall be entitled to receive, over and above the portion of the penalties accruing to him or them by the provisions of the acts in such case made and provided, a bounty of fifty dollars for each and every negro, mulatto, or person of colour, who shall have been delivered into the custody of the marshal; and the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized and required to pay, or cause to be paid, the aforesaid bounty, upon the certificate of the clerk

of the court for the district where the prosecution may have been had, with the seal of office thereto annexed, stating the number of negroes, mulattoes, or persons of colour so delivered.

SECT. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That it shall be a duty of the commander of any armed vessel of the United States, whenever he shall make any capture under the provisions of this act, to bring the vessel and her cargo for adjudication into some of the ports of the state or territory to which such vessel so captured shall belong, if he can ascertain the same, if not, then to be sent into any convenient port of the United States.

SECT. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That all such acts or parts of acts as may be repugnant to the provisions of this act, shall be and the same are hereby repealed.

SECT. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That a sum not exceeding one hundred thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated, to carry this law into effect.

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To the Honourable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States:

The President and Board of Managers of the American Colonization Society, respectfully represent that, being about to commence the execution of the object to which their views have been long directed, they deem it proper and necessary to address themselves to the legislative council of their country. They trust that this object will be considered, in itself, of great national importance, will be found inseparably connected with another, vitally affecting the honour and interest of this nation, and leading, in its consequences, to the most desirable results.

Believing that examination and reflection will show that such are its connexions and tendency, they are encouraged to present themselves, and their cause, where they know that a public measure, having these advantages, cannot fail to receive all the countenance and aid it may require.

The last census shows the number of free people of colour of the United States, and their rapid increase. Supposing them to increase in the same ratio, it will appear how large a proportion of our population will, in the course of even a few years, consist of persons of that description.

No argument is necessary to show that this is very far indeed from constituting an increase of our physical strength; nor can there be a population, in any country, neutral as to its effects upon society. The least observation shows that this description of persons are not, and cannot be, either useful or happy among us; and many considerations, which need not be mentioned, prove, beyond dispute, that it is best, for all the parties interested, that there should be a separation; that those who are now free, and those who may become so hereafter, should be provided with the means of attaining to a state of respectability and happiness, which, it is certain, they have never yet reached, and, therefore, can never be likely to reach in this country.

Several of the states, deeply interested in this subject, have already applied to the general government; and, concurring in the views of your memorialists, both from considerations of justice towards themselves and humanity to the coloured people, have expressed, to the general government, their desire that a country should be procured for them, in the land of their forefathers, to which such of them, as should avail themselves of the opportunity, might be removed. It has been the one single object of the Society, which your memorialists represent, to effect this end. They have made the most cautious and particular inquiries, as to the practicability of such a plan and its prospects of success, both in this country and in Africa, and they are warranted in declaring, that there are no difficulties which they do not confidently expect will be easily overcome by a moderate exertion of discretion and perseverance.

In this country, and in almost every part of it, they have found a zealous and decided approbation expressed, both in words and deeds, by a vast majority of all classes of our citizens; and this sentiment is continually increasing as the measure becomes more the subject of discussion and reflection. Its importance all admit; and its practicability, though doubted by many at first, is daily less questioned.

The two last reports of the Society, to which your memorialists beg leave to refer, show the success of their mission to Africa, and the result of their inquiries upon that continent. From those it is manifest that a situation can be readily obtained, favourable to commerce and agriculture, in a healthy and fertile country, and that the natives are well disposed to give every encouragement to the establishment of such a settlement among them. Thus, it appears, that an object of great national concern, already expressly desired by some of the states, and truly desirable to all, receiving, also, the approbation of those upon whom it is more immediately to operate, is brought within our reach.

But this subject derives, perhaps, its chief interest from its connection with a measure which has, already, to the honour of our country, occupied the deliberations of the Congress of the United States.

Your memorialists refer, with pleasure, to the act, passed at the last session of Congress, supplementary to the act formerly passed for the suppression of the slave-trade. The means afforded, by the provisions of that act, for the accomplishment of its object, are certainly great; but the total extirpation of this disgraceful trade, cannot, perhaps, be expected from any measures which rely, alone, upon the employment of a maritime force, however considerable.

The profits attending it are so extraordinary, that the cupidity of the unprincipled will still be tempted to continue it, as long as there is any chance of escaping the vigilance of the cruisers engaged against them. From the best information your memorialists have been enabled to obtain, of the nature, causes, and course of this trade, and of the present situation of the coast of Africa, and the habits and dispositions of the natives, they are well assured that the suppression of the African slave-trade, and the civilization of the natives, are measures of indispensable connection.

Such an opinion has been avowed, many years ago, by those best acquainted with this subject, and experience has abundantly confirmed it.

The documents and papers which your memorialists had heretofore the honour of presenting to Congress, and those contained in the late reports of the Society, prove this position.

Since the establishment of the English settlement at Sierra Leone, the slave trade has been rapidly ceasing upon that part of the coast.

Not only the kingdoms in its immediate neighbourhood, but those upon the Sherbro and Bagroo rivers, and others with whom the people of that settlement have opened a communication, have been prevailed upon to abandon it, and are turning their attention to the ordinary and innocent pursuits of civilized nations.

That the same consequences will result from similar settlements, cannot be doubted. When the natives there see that the European commodities, for which they have been accustomed to exchange their fellow-beings, until vast and fertile regions have become almost depopulated, can be more easily, and safely obtained by other pursuits, can it be believed that they will hesitate to profit by the experience? Nor will the advantages of civilization be alone exhibited. That religion, whose mandate is "peace on earth and good will towards men," will "do its errand," will deliver them from the bondage of their miserable superstitious, and display the same triumphs which it is exhibiting in every land.

That such points of settlement would diffuse their light around the coast, and gradually dispel the darkness which has so long enshrouded that continent, would be a reasonable hope, and would justify the attempt, even if experience had not ascertained its success. Although, therefore, much may be effected by the vigilant operations of a well disposed naval force, it is to be feared that much will always remain to be done, until some degree of civilization is attained by the inhabitants of the coast of Africa. The present measures, therefore, for the suppression of the slave trade, if unconnected with others for the improvement of the natives, must be long continued, and the effects produced by them will be partial, tedious, and uncertain; and the least relaxation of this vigilance will revive it.

But those measures, and all others involving expense and labour, may be withdrawn, as soon as these establishments upon the coast become strong enough to participate in the contest against avarice and inhumanity, and shall obtain from their evident advantages over the natives, a proper influence among them. And here your memorialists beg leave, respectfully, to suggest their fears that many of the profligate adventurers in this trade will evade the search of our cruisers by their artful contrivances in disguising their national character. We have reason to believe that the slave ships of other nations assume the flag and character of Americans, to evade the search of British cruisers. Is it not, therefore, to be expected that the act lately passed will often be defeated by American slave ships assuming a foreign flag and character? A careful consideration of this subject has convinced us that all our efforts will be insufficient to accomplish their purposes, unless some friendly arrangement can be made among the maritime powers of the world, which shall leave no shelter to those who deserve to be considered as the common enemies of mankind.

Whether a permission, under any modification, to certain specified ships, or in certain latitudes, to search and seize slave-ships, under our flag, such as Great Britain, and other European powers have mutually given to each other, can be properly granted by our government, we cheerfully leave to the wisdom and justice of Congress to determine. Your memorialists will only express their hope and belief, that your deliberations upon this interesting subject will enable you to discern a way, without any compromise of our national honour, by which our country may be placed among the for most and most efficient asserters of the rights of humanity. But your memorialists humbly consider, that the colonization of Africa offers the most powerful and indispensable auxiliary to the means already adopted, for the extermination of a trade, which is now exciting, in every country, that just indignation which has been long since felt and expressed in this.

No nation has it so much in its power to furnish proper settlers for such establishments, as this; no nation has so deep an interest in thus disposing of them. By the law passed at the last session, and before referred to, the captives who may be taken by our cruisers, from the slave ships, are to be taken to Africa, and delivered to the custody of agents appointed by the President. There will then be a settlement of captured negroes upon the coast, in consequence of the measures already adopted. And it is evidently most important, if not necessary to such a settlement, that the civilized people of colour, of this country, whose industry, enterprize, and knowledge of agriculture, and the arts, would render them most useful assistants, should be connected with such an establishment.

When therefore, the object of the Colonization Society is viewed, in connexion with that entire suppression of the slave trade, which your memorialists trust it is resolved shall be effected, its importance becomes obvious and extreme. The beneficial consequences resulting from success in such a measure, it is impossible to calculate. To the general cause of humanity, it will afford the most rich and noble contribution, and for the nation that regards that cause, that employs its power in its behalf, it cannot fail to procure a proportionate reward. It is by such a course that a nation insures to itself the protection and favour of the Governor of the world. Nor are there wanting views and considerations arising from our peculiar political institutions, which would justify the sure expectation of the most signal blessings to ourselves from the accomplishment of such an object. If one of these consequences shall be the gradual, and almost imperceptible, removal of a national evil, which all unite in lamenting, and for which, with the most intense, but hitherto hopeless anxiety, the patriots and statesmen of our country have laboured to discover a remedy, who can doubt, that, of all the blessings we may be permitted to bequeath to our descendants, this will receive the richest tribute of their thanks and veneration?

Your memorialists cannot believe that such an evil, universally acknowledged and deprecated, has been irremoveably fixed upon us. Some way will always be opened by Providence, by which a people, desirous of acting justly and benevolently, may be led to the attainment of a meritorious object. And they believe, that of all the plans, which the most sagacious and discerning of our patriots have suggested, for effect-

Extract from "An act to continue in force 'An act to protect the commerce of the United States, and punish the crime of piracy,' and also to make further provision for punishing the crime of piracy." Passed May 15, 1820.

SECT. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That, if any citizen of the United States, being of the crew or ship's company, of any foreign ship or vessel engaged in the slave trade, or any person whatever, being of the crew or ship's company, of any ship or vessel owned in whole or in part, or navigated for, or in behalf of, any citizen or citizens of the United States, shall land, from any such ship or vessel, and, on any foreign shore, seize any negro or mulatto, not held to service or labour by the laws of either of the states or territories of the United States, with intent to make such negro or mulatto a slave, or shall decoy, or forcibly bring or carry, or shall receive such negro or mulatto on board any such ship or vessel, with intent as aforesaid, such citizen or person shall be adjudged a pirate, and on conviction thereof before the circuit court of the United States for the district wherein he may be brought or found, shall suffer death.

SECT. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That, if any citizen of the United States, being of the crew or ship's company of any foreign ship or vessel engaged in the slave trade, or any person whatever, being of the crew or ship's company of any ship or vessel owned wholly or in part, or navigated for, or in behalf of, any citizen or citizens of the United States, shall forcibly confine or detain, or aid and abet in forcibly confining or detaining, on board any such ship or vessel, any negro, or mulatto, not held to service by the laws of either of the states or territories of the United States, with intent to make such negro or mulatto a slave, or shall, on board any such ship or vessel, offer or attempt to sell, as a slave, any negro or mulatto, not held to service as aforesaid, or shall, on the high seas, or any where on tide water, transfer, or deliver over, to any other ship or vessel, any such negro or mulatto, not held to service, as aforesaid, with intent to make such negro or mulatto a slave, or shall land or deliver on shore, from on board any such ship or vessel, any such negro or mulatto, with intent to make sale of, or having previously sold, such negro or mulatto, as a slave, such citizen or person shall be adjudged a pirate, and on conviction thereof, before the circuit court of the United States for the district wherein he shall be brought or found, shall suffer death.

SECTION 6.

The Constitution of the American Society, for Colonizing the Free People of Colour of the United States.

ART. 1. This Society shall be called, "The American Society, for colonizing the free people of colour of the United States."

ART. 2. The object to which its attention is to be exclusively directed, is to promote and execute a plan for colonizing (with their con-

sent) the free people of colour, residing in our country, in Africa, or such other place as Congress shall deem most expedient. And the Society shall act, to effect this object in co-operation with the general government, and such of the states as may adopt regulations upon the subject.

ART. 3. Every citizen of the United States, who shall subscribe these articles, and be an annual contributor of one dollar to the funds of the Society, shall be a member. On paying not less than thirty dollars, at one subscription, shall be a member for life.

ART. 4. The officers of this Society shall be, a President, thirteen Vice Presidents, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Recorder, and a Board of Managers, composed of the above named officers, and twelve other members of the Society. They shall be annually elected by the members of the Society, at an annual meeting on the last Saturday of December, and continue to discharge their respective duties till others are appointed.

ART. 5. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Society, and of the Board of Managers, and to call meetings of the Society, and of the Board, when he thinks necessary, or when required by any three members of the Board.

ART. 6. The Vice-Presidents, according to seniority, shall discharge these duties in the absence of the President.

ART. 7. The Secretary shall take minutes of the proceedings, prepare and publish notices, and discharge such other duties, as the Board, or the President, or in his absence, the Vice-President, according to the seniority, (when the Board is not sitting) shall direct. And the Recorder shall record the proceedings, and the names of the members, and discharge such other duties as may be required of him.

ART. 8. The treasurer shall receive and take charge of the funds of the Society, under such security as may be prescribed by the Board of Managers: keep the accounts, and exhibit a statement of receipts and expenditures at every annual meeting, and discharge such other duties as may be required of him.

ART. 9. The Board of Managers shall meet on the first Monday in January, the first Monday in April, the first Monday in July, and the first Monday in October, every year, and at such other times as the President may direct. They shall conduct the business of the Society, and take such measures for effecting its objects as they shall think proper, or shall be directed at the meetings of the Society, and make an annual report of their proceedings. They shall also fill up all vacancies occurring during the year, and make such by-laws for their government, as they may deem necessary, provided the same are not repugnant to this constitution.

ART. 10. Every Society which shall be formed in the United States to aid in the object of this association, and which shall co-operate with its funds for the purposes thereof, agreeably to the rules and regulations of this Society, shall be considered auxiliary thereto, and its officers shall be entitled to attend and vote at all meetings of the Society, and of the Board of Managers.

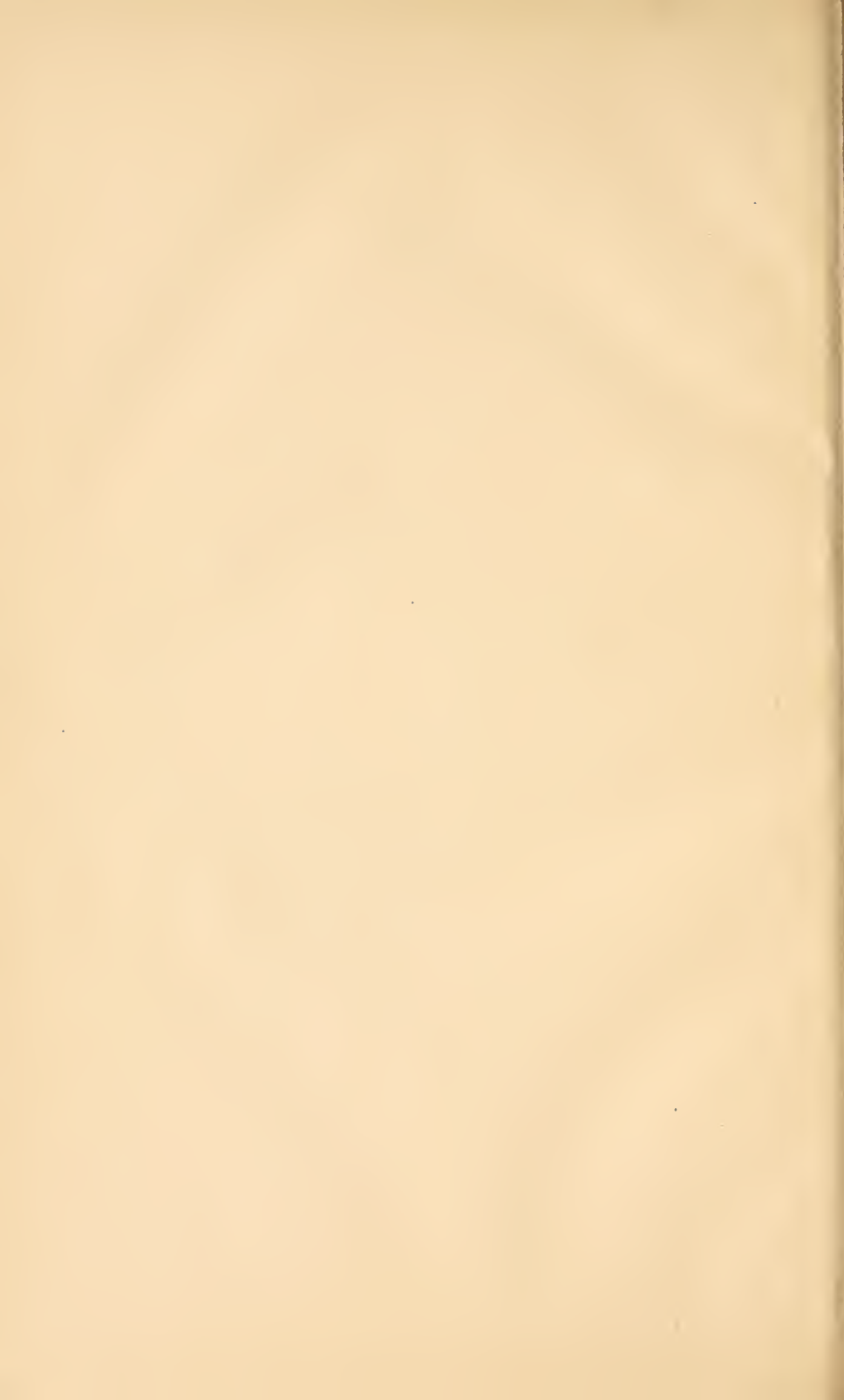


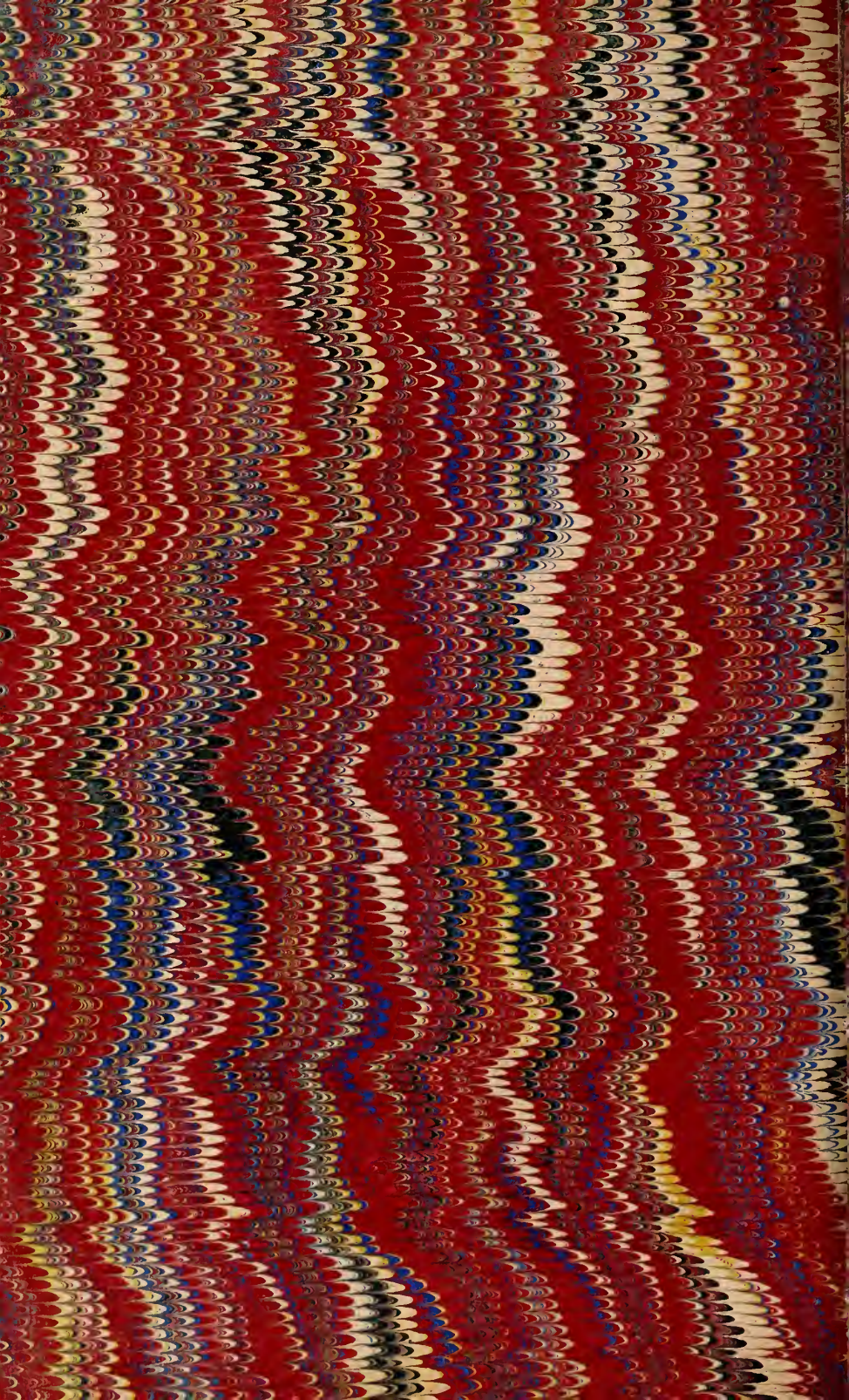














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